

REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed July 13, 2005, the Examiner made a restriction requirement as follows:

- I. Claims 1-24, drawn to thermo-acoustic generators;
- II. Claims 25-39, drawn to piezoelectric transducers.

Responsive to the requirement for restriction, Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute the invention of Group I with traverse. This group includes claims 1-24, and should also include claim 39 and new claim 40.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the requirement for restriction. Independent claim 1 includes a piezoelectric alternator. The dependent claims add details of this alternator. These details generally correspond to the claims of Group II. As such, a prior art search directed to all the claims of Group I may require the Examiner to search the prior art related to Group II.

Applicant respectfully submits that the examination of all pending claims cannot constitute an additional burden of search or examination since examination of the dependent claims of Group I will require a review of the prior art of Group II. Further, Groups I and II are each classified in class 310, and Applicant respectfully submits that there is sufficient overlap in subclasses 311 and 334 that a review of the prior art references in the above subclasses should not constitute an undue burden.

Applicant notes that new claim 40 is a somewhat broader version of claim 1 and therefore should be grouped with Group I. Additionally, original claim 39 is directed to a thermoacoustic device, such as a generator, and should be grouped with Group I. Dependent claims 4, 7 and 17 have been amended herein to clarify the claim limitations.

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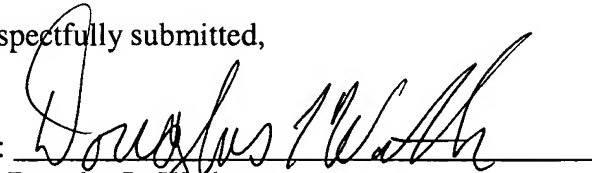
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In light of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the restriction requirement and examination of all pending claims. Any question should be directed to Applicant's below-signed representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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